

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 remain, all of the claims standing as rejected.

Submitted herewith are a set of formal drawings.

The claims have been extensively amended to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner to hopefully obviate the objections and rejection applied to the claims under 35USC§112.

In claim 1, the last section has been deleted as duplicative of claim 2.

Reconsideration of the rejections under 35USC§102 and 103 based on Gunnarson U.S. 6,216,846 is respectfully requested.

In Gunnarson, a third conveyor is relied on to execute board turnover. The flipper arms 16 are not mounted to the conveyor loops which transport the articles to be carried therewith but rather to a third conveyor 15. This requires a precise synchronization between the third conveyor 15 and the first conveyor 1 and second conveyor 11 as well as the complexity and expense incurred by using three powered conveyors.

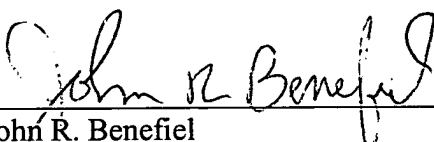
In Gunnarson, the lifting devices are not pivoted by a cam, but rather are carried up linearly by the angled third conveyor 15.

Accordingly, the claimed apparatus and method incorporates flip up arms directly mounted to the conveyor loops which are pivoted up by a stationary cam ramp which eliminates the need for any synchronization altogether and is much simpler as well.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 3, 2006

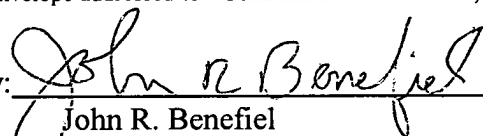


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